

# Why Is There Healing?

## Establishing A Foundation For Believing!

By B. D. Tate

**What We Have Is A Church  
That Believes God Has  
Healed And Will Heal, But Is  
Not Aware, Convinced, Or  
Agrees That God Has Healed  
Us Now.**

## Introduction

For many in the church, the idea of divine healing for anyone, let alone the believer, is a foreign thought. Most have never been taught about it, and what they have heard hasn't done much to encourage their faith.

Most in the church would agree with this statement, ***"I believe God can heal; He is Almighty, He can do anything—even the impossible."*** If most therefore, believe that God *can* heal the question then becomes, "Will God heal?"

**Most Christians know that God has healed.** We can't believe in the Bible and not agree to that truth. Any short study of the Old or New Testament, reveals God's divine healing. We know the scripture reveals also that, ***"God is our great physician (Ps. 103:3)."*** For most believers there is this sense ***that God will heal*** when we die, or when the "rapture" takes place, or at the second coming of Christ; we will no longer be sick. We all seem to agree that when God's kingdom is fully realized (When God's Will is fully manifested), or entered into, that **there will be no more sickness and disease, no more death, dying, pain, sorrow, or suffering like the world has known.**

Re 21:4 ***"And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away."***

Many do not know if it is God's will to heal now, in this day, and at this time. Furthermore, even if God does heal today, He certainly does not ***heal all*** as we can clearly see. How can I know that God wants to heal ***me***, especially, when so many are not?

Simply Then, ***"I Believe God Can Heal; But I Don't Know If He Wants To Heal Me Now."***

Several years ago I was made aware of a ***huge memo I'd never gotten***. I'd been in the church as a born again believer since I was twelve years old. I've served in many churches, heard thousands of sermons, read hundreds of books, and listened to as many CD's; all this is to say that I was well abreast and versed in the doctrines of the church. I went to seminary and received my MDIV with outstanding grades. Over the years I'd served in the church as a Sunday school teacher, youth assistant, youth leader, associate pastor and then pastor (for over

twenty-five years). Honestly, I thought I'd heard just about every major teaching and its opposition.

## 1) The Paradigm Shift—Grace Is Already Accomplished (Including Healing)

Then I heard something that absolutely astounded me. I heard that grace is far more than *unmerited favor* from God; I heard that **grace is everything God has already accomplished in the atonement, in Christ Jesus**. I heard that our faith is our response to what God has already done. In other words, **“Our faith doesn't move God** (to answer our prayers); **it moves us** (to accept and assert God's already provided and given blessings in Christ).”

I was encouraged to see most of the New Testament (Epistles) promises of God as they were actually written, **“in the past tense.”** The promises of God are surrounded by, “have given,” or “has made.” For example,

2Pe 1:3 “as His divine power **has given to us all things** that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,”

Eph 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, **who has blessed us** with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

I Pet. 2:24 who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--**by whose stripes you were healed**.

As these verses show, God has placed His will concerning His promises towards us ***in the past tense***. This means that God has ***already decided and provided*** for us in the atonement all these things (His promises)—that are in Christ. Think about this: **if we have Christ in all that He is, what are we missing (Eph. 3:8)?**

When we became born again, we received Christ Jesus. When we received Christ Jesus, we received all that He is (I John 4:17). Our salvation therefore, is far more than just the forgiveness of sins. **In the atonement, healing is an already established fact. God willed to heal us even before many of us were born.**

### Why Should We Doubt That God Wants Us Well When He Already Decided And Provided For Our Healing And Health?

Col 1:27 “To them **God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory** of this mystery among the Gentiles: **which is Christ in you**, the hope of glory.”

When we became born again, we entered into a **new kingdom based solely upon His grace** (Col. 1:13). We became sons and daughters of God through what Jesus did for us. **Our salvation means we are forgiven and made righteous in Him (Rom. 5:17)**. This righteousness means we stand in God's grace. Grace has come to us through the atonement. Our born again experience

is huge and **it comes with stuff!** The greatest gift or miracle is becoming born again, but it doesn't end there; **we're in a new kingdom! It includes the "riches of His glory!"**

## **It Includes All That His Grace Has Provided! It Includes Our Healing Even Before We Needed It!**

Unfortunately, we have inherited (been taught) a very weak understanding of what it means to be born again. Most of us think of it as our ticket to heaven. We think of it as God forgiving us and being with us as we endure this life. **The idea that our salvation includes healing sounds inviting, but all of us know that experience tells us something else.** The reasoning goes like this: "All we need to do is look to see that many Christians are sick, ill, and suffering. Many are very devoted, love God, and have served in very committed ways. Many are even spiritual giants compared to most and they do not get healed. If healing were part of the salvation experience then Christians would see it; especially with the very devout!"

**Special Note:** Christianity has made religion (we have to earn it) out of God's grace. We think that God's grace is somehow earned by being devout, pious, and faithful. If this were true then those who have obtained special recognition from God would have "something to boast about (Eph. 2:9)." God's grace is not for sale, not for merit, and not for favor; it is a gift to all the same. God's grace has been poured out to all of us equally; God shows favoritism to no man. What God has done for one, He has done for all. **Whosoever believes means who-so-ever understands and asserts God's grace into their life.** If a very devout man doesn't believe God's grace covers healing then, that devout man will not receive the benefit of **"by His stripes we were healed** (II Pet. 2:24)." For example, if God doesn't heal Evangelist *Billy Graham* then most of us would have no chance of being healed. This is merit based as if Billy Graham stands in a better position of grace than most other Christians. This is completely false.

## **In Fact, Many That Are Not So Devout Receive Their Healing Simply Because They Believe Jesus Provided It For Them—That's Grace.**

Most **that do not believe** it is God's will for us to experience healing, **believe it not from an overwhelming sense of scripture, but from what they've seen, or experienced.** We are judging this matter based on stories and experiences of which some of them are heart breaking. I've heard testimonies of people who have lost loved ones to terminal diseases who begged, pleaded, and even bargained with God—but to no avail. These same people have had their hearts torn apart by the death of their loved ones, knowing that they prayed with all they had. The only answer that many can accept is, **"God must have a reason why He didn't heal..."**

## **2) Experiences Over The Word Of God**

One of the **major pit falls** of faith in God's word is allowing experiences to overpower the testimony found in it. When we live by what we experience and try to make the word of God line up with it, we are making a **very grave mistake.** **We live by faith; not by sight** (II Cor. 5:7). When we live by our experiences, we are living by sight. We can all understand this; however,

this is not faith. Faith is what comes to us from **hearing God's word** not by living to our experiences (Rom. 10:17). When someone earnestly seeks God for healing, but does not receive it, what are we to conclude? Many conclude there must be a reason why God **didn't answer**.

### **The Answer Isn't That God Didn't...Let Me Explain.**

**If the Bible says one thing, but my experience is another, what do I do?** For most of us we figure that God has acted in a sovereign way. We have heard answers such as, "Well, God doesn't always answer our prayers the way we expect." Or, "God uses our sickness and disease to teach us; to develop character and bring about His greater glory."

I'm not mocking these well intentioned explanations, I genuinely understand why they are given; there is however, **a better way to see what is going on**. I asked the question: "If the Bible says one thing but my experience is something else, what am I to believe? Am I to trust my experience, or God's word?"

If the Bible says that Jesus died for my sins, but someone feels that they have committed sins that cannot be forgiven (and then live in that condemnation), who is right? Some people honestly feel that they are beyond redemption. They have committed horrendous sins. Who is right, the sinner with horrendous sins who can't forgive him/herself, or God's Word that says Jesus paid for all sins? **The answer** is God already forgave all of us of our sins in Jesus two thousand years ago—Jesus literally paid for them. If someone can't receive forgiveness for their sins, **it is not because God didn't** forgive them—He already did.

### **If Someone Can't Receive Healing (Does Not Manifest) It Is Not Because God Didn't Heal Them—He Already Did In The Cross By Jesus' Stripes Two Thousand Years Ago!**

Most in the church today would quickly reply that the Bible's testimony in Christ Jesus is correct. If Jesus died for all sin, then it would include horrendous sins too. Where do we find our foundation for such belief? Where does confidence in forgiveness of all sins come from?

### **3) We Find It In The Atonement!**

Isaiah chapter fifty-three is considered by most, if not all Christians, to be the most poetic and comprehensive passage describing the atonement. Listen to some of these verses:

Isa. 53: 4 Surely He has borne our grief and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

**5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.**

In this same atonement it says, “**and by His stripes we are healed.**” This means that Jesus’ sacrifice not only brought us the forgiveness of sins, bringing peace between us and God; it also means that by His stripes **we were healed. It’s in the atonement!** Just as God decided, even before the foundation of the world, to send Jesus to save us from our sins (Rev. 13:8); He also decided that Jesus’ sacrifice healed us! **If we can’t trust or have confidence in the atonement, we have NOTHING to trust or have confidence in at all.**

## **God’s Grace Has Already Provided Healing For Us Now As Much As He Provided Forgiveness For Our Sins.**

**Is it God’s will for us to accept the forgiveness of our sins?** Indeed it is God’s will to accept forgiveness for our sins, and we don’t have to have a *special revelation* of this truth every time we talk to someone new. We know God saved all and paid the price for the forgiveness of all sins.

Heb 10:10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ **once for all.**

If we can make such a claim about our sins being forgiven, and we do not need to ask God if it is His will to forgive sins (because we know it is in the atonement), then why do we separate healing from the same argument? **We do it because our experience tells us to do it.** We know not all are healed; therefore, it can’t be God’s will or all would be healed. **Is that same reasoning true of salvation?** We know it is God’s will for all to be saved; therefore, if it is God’s will for all to be saved, then all would be saved—but not all are saved, right?

Tit 2:11 **For the grace of God that brings salvation** has appeared to all men,

God’s grace for salvation has already been provided in the cross. God decided to save us even before the foundation of the world. **We don’t need to ask God to save; He already has. What we need to do is respond to His salvation—that’s the faith part!** Sinners need to embrace, accept, and then respond according to the gospel’s call. When anyone of us got saved was it because God decided then and there to save us? Did Jesus get down from the throne of grace and become a new sacrifice each time? The answer is obvious, His sacrifice was once and for all a done and finished act. **When we got saved it was because we responded today for something He accomplished two thousand years ago.**

## **God’s Grace Has Already Decided And Provided Forgiveness Of Sins And Healing.**

### **4) Salvation Comes With Stuff: Healing, Provision, Protection, Wisdom, Guidance, And God’s Presence In Peace**

It is like buying a **computer** for word processing, but the programs installed on it provide for far more. Most computers have programs that many of us never use. If a computer's programming is far more complex than word processing, and includes so much more than most ever use, **how much more true is it that when we received Jesus, we received far more than just the forgiveness of sins?** Jesus, the Son of God, is far more than any human program packaging! His **riches are unsearchable**, and they included healing (Eph. 3:8).

**God's grace is far more than just the forgiveness of sins!** The truth is that **forgiveness of sins is joined with healing**. When Jesus healed a paralyzed man, He made a very **clear connection** between *forgiveness of sins and healing*. In essence, He was saying that one means the other.

### **This Means The Works Of God In Christ (The Atonement) Included Healing With The Forgiveness Of Sins.**

Matt. 9: 2 Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, **"Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you."**

3 And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemeth!"

4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts?"

5 **"For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'?"**

6 **"But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"** --then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

7 And he arose and departed to his house.

**When we are forgiven, we are healed; when we are healed, we are forgiven.** This makes perfect sense if we realize that it was sin that caused us to fall from grace in the first place. Adam and Eve's sin caused us to fall under **the curse of the law**. It is the judgment of the law (the curse) upon humanity that has brought sickness and disease, among many other things (Deut. Chapter 28 & I Cor. 15:56). In other words, sin brought the curse into the earth; why wouldn't the forgiveness of those sins redeem us from it? Paul teaches this plainly:

Gal. 3:13 **Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law**, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"),

### **God's Will Is Known By His Word And His Word Reveals His Grace Towards Us.**

If God sent His Son to die on the cross for our sins, why would it be hard for us to believe that it also included healing?

Ro 8:32 **He who did not spare His own Son**, but delivered Him up for us all, **how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?**

**Healing is in the atonement as much as the forgiveness of sins is.** We read it plainly in Isa. 53:5

5 But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, **And by His stripes we are healed.**

## 5) If Healing Is In The Atonement What Kind Is It?

Most if not all Christians (scholars, theologians, preachers, etc.), believe that healing is in the atonement. What is not agreed upon is the **type of healing** it refers to. **This is a problem of interpretation because of what we** (the body of Christ) **have experienced**, not by what is found in scripture. Many agree that healing is described here, but some will quickly state that this type of healing is spiritual and not necessarily physical.

**What this (interpretation) has done is to create doubt about healing in our hearts and minds.** Is it physical, or is it just spiritual? Furthermore, if the atonement meant physical healing many have put it off until we get to heaven. Even though Jesus' sacrifice paid for our healing (physically), it doesn't necessarily mean for today. This also creates doubt in our hearts about healing being for us now. It is for today, or is it for heaven in God's kingdom? This is doubt because it makes us **double minded**, being tossed back and forth about what to believe. Listen to James teach about doubt:

James 1: 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

6 **But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.**

7 **For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;**

8 **he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.**

This may explain why it is that so many Christians do not receive their healing. **It is because they doubt if it is God's will for them to be healed physically, now in this life.** They are unsure because experiences dictate that not all get healed; therefore, it must not be God's will to heal us physically now, or we'd be healed. Therefore, this passage must be referring to spiritual healing and/or healing that takes place when we die (when we take on a new resurrected glorified body). This is all understandable; but it is based on experiences not soundly upon God's word. **How could I know that is the case that it is based upon experiences? It is because the Word of God answers this very issue!**

The Word of God answers this dilemma (if physical healing is for today?). It is found in **Mathew chapter 8** (and other places). Listen and make the connection that the Holy Spirit wants us to make concerning the atonement: healing is now in this world.

Matt. 8:16 When evening had come, **they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,**

17 **that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."**

According to the Matthew under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Isaiah chapter 53:5 **includes physical healing and deliverance** from demonic possession. It was applied in this life where sickness and disease occurs. **Jesus healed all who were sick**; that phrase itself should reveal to us God's will on the matter.

Jesus is the divine will manifest among us (Col. 1:19). What He did and said is what the Father wanted Him to do and say (John 14:10). Furthermore, **think about this for a moment**: When we get to heaven (where God's will is done fully) there will not be a need for healing, for all will be well; no one will need demons cast out of them because they were already cast out of heaven! **We will not need healing in God's kingdom because none of us will be cursed there—the curse cannot be in God's presence.** We need healing now in this life *where the curse is found*.

**Once we leave this realm and enter into heaven, the game of life is over for us.** We would be out of the game where life and death, blessing and cursing exist, and where the determination of humanity's eternal destiny is in the balance! **The gospel is for this life and Jesus' atonement is not needed in glory where there is no curse**; his grace and His promises are needed now, and apply in this life! The gospel is for now to get us to heaven that is certainly true; however, His grace is for now to help us in the game of life, to live in newness of life, and be His witnesses.

## **Jesus Didn't Die On The Cross To Redeem Us From Heavenly Conditions But Earthly Ones.**

### **6) Is It God's Will To Heal Us?**

**Where do we learn what God's will is?** We learn it from His Word. Is it God's will for us to know His will? There are many verses that say so like these two:

Col 1:9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask **that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding**;

Rom. 12: 1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.  
2 And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.**

God wants us **single minded** upon His will that is what James chapter 1 versus 5-8 are explaining to us. To be double minded is to be tossed back and forth, not knowing or being convinced of what God's will is. God wants us stable, established, and certain, and building our life on His Word.

Luke 6: 46 "But why do you call Me 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do the things which I say?"

47 “Whoever comes to Me, and hears My sayings and does them, I will show you whom he is like:

48 “He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

49 “But he who heard and did nothing is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the stream beat vehemently; and immediately it fell. And the ruin of that house was great.”

**The rock** represents believing and living that is unmoved, solid, and established—even in the midst of a storm. For us to stand upon the rock of God’s word, we must know what it is.

**God Wants Us Walking By Faith, And Faith Knows What God’s Will Is, Because Faith Comes By Hearing God’s Word (Rom. 10:17).**

We came to know God wanted to save us by hearing God’s word! If someone is not sure God wants to save them, they have a hard time praying with their whole heart to receive.

**Is it God’s will to heal us?** If healing is in the atonement; if it is physical and for now; **then it is God’s will for us to be healed**. **Can it be that simple?** It most certainly is. **Why should we doubt it is God’s will for us to be healed, if He has already provided for it?**

**He Already Decided To Heal Us In Jesus Even Before The World Began.  
Why Should We Doubt Something God Has Already Done?**

## 7) The Menu

It is like going to a **restaurant and looking at the menu**. The restaurant has already prepared, decided, and published what is on their menu. We can conclude that it is **their will** for us to order from it. The restaurant is saying, “*Anything you order from this menu we will do.*” Doesn’t that sound familiar (For those who are familiar with God’s word)?

I John 5: 14 **Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.**

15 **And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.**

**God’s Word Is His Menu!**

God’s menu includes that He sent His Son to heal, restore, save, and deliver us from sin and evil (Matt. 9:12). He already prepared, decided, and published this in the atonement. We can pick up our Bible (like we pick up a restaurant’s menu) and read what is in it. We can conclude that the Word of God is His will, and **He wants us to order from it**. He is saying, “*Anything that you ask for in Jesus’ name He will do.*”

John 14:14 **"If you ask anything in My name, I will do it."**

If we walk into an *Olive Garden* restaurant, we will be handed a menu, and on it ***all the things we can freely order from*** (although we must pay). If we look over the menu and order something not on it, like say a cheeseburger, they will not hear us as in filling that order. The waitress will direct us back to the menu.

**When we come to God, we must come on His terms according to His menu.** The amazing difference between a restaurant and God's will is that God has already done it, provided it, and made it complete—that's grace! When Jesus spoke on the cross He said, **"It is finished!"** This means that His grace has already made it available. With most restaurants, when we order something that is when they prepare the meal—as if it isn't done yet. In God's grace in Christ, it is already done!

**This changes everything!** Jesus paid it all with His suffering, sacrifice, and life; there is nothing we can do to pay. **This amazing grace is God's gift given to those who believe.** God's menu in salvation is His free gift to us, if we believe! Furthermore, like with a menu, we have to place an order. This means we must believe that the menu contains healing, and then assert, ask for, command, and call for it in Jesus' name (more on this later).

**By contrast, If we believe God hasn't healed us yet (but is deciding whether or not to), we are going to miss grace.**

**When We Ask God To Do Something He Has Already Done, We Are Acting In Unbelief As If He Hasn't Done It.**

It would be like asking the waitress, *"Do you make this or that?"* when the menu has already listed it. When we ask if it is God's will to heal us, we are missing grace because God has already done it through the stripes that Jesus bore on the cross. It would be like asking God if it is His will to forgive us of our sins, knowing that Jesus died for them. We know it is His will to forgive us our sins; **we also can know it is His will for our healing, because they are both included in the atonement.**

**Healing Is A Finished Matter In God's Kingdom On Earth. We Don't Need To Ask If It Is God's Will, Because It Is Already An Established Faith Fact.**

### **8) If It Is God's Will For My Healing, Why Don't I See It?**

**This is asking the right question.** The wrong question is, *"Why didn't God heal me (others)?"* Or, *"Why didn't God answer my (other's) need for healing?"* God has already provided our healing in the atonement. If this is so, why don't I see it?

## The Following Provides Some Answers To That Question:

1) I have mentioned one major possibility: **we may not have been convinced God healed us physically for this life (in this time), in the cross. *By definition***, not being *single minded* (and convinced) about God's will means we are in doubt. Doubt receives nothing from God according to James 1:7 & 8:

**7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;  
8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.**

2) I have mentioned another hindrance: **we have been asking God to do something He's already done—that is unbelief**. This means we do not believe God's word that healing is a finished benefit of the atonement. **Unbelief is a Biblical reason why we do not receive**. When Jesus was in His home town, they were offended by Him, because He was making Himself out to be someone greater than Joseph's son. It was because of their *unbelief* in Him that He could do no mighty works there:

Mt 13:58 Now He did not do many mighty works there **because of their unbelief**.

When the disciples failed to heal the demon possessed boy who was having epileptic fits, they asked Jesus why:

Mt 17:20 So Jesus said to them, "**Because of your unbelief**; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and **nothing will be impossible for you**."

When Israel refused to embrace the good reports from the spies sent into the Promised Land (but received the bad reports), God sent them into the desert for forty years. God was angry, opposed, and standing against them, because of their *unbelief*.

Heb 3:19 So we see that they could not enter in **because of unbelief**.

### [Addressing Briefly The Difference Between Unbelief And Doubt

There is a subtle but real difference between *unbelief and doubt*. Unbelief knows what God's will is, but doubts the performance of it. Doubt on the other hand, is not convinced what God's will is. Doubt doesn't know God's will, and therefore, cannot stand in faith. **We cannot receive from God when we don't know what God's will is**. Once we are convinced that it is God's will for us to be well because of what Christ did for us, we are no longer in doubt. Faith comes to us because we know what God's word says—thus we know His will.

**Once we are convinced it is God's will for healing, that doesn't mean we are without unbelief**. Unbelief is seeing, imagining, or acting in a contrary way, to what we are supposed to believe. The father of the demon possessed boy cried out, "***I believe; help my unbelief!***" After hearing the father's unbelief, Jesus still healed the son.

This difference between doubt and unbelief is a **major obstacle** in many lives. When we mix them up and do not understand they are different, we'll find ourselves **unable to progress in faith**. If James tells us that we'll receive nothing from the Lord if we doubt; well, that pretty much eliminates all of us from receiving. **Who among us doesn't doubt?** However, if we discern the difference I'm putting forth, we can begin to see that **by knowing God's will I have eliminated doubt**. Who among us can know God's will and be convinced of it? The truth is all of us can know God's will and be convinced in it! **We can eliminate doubt!** We eliminated doubt concerning our salvation, and the result is that we became born again!

**What about unbelief?** Jesus could do no miracles because of their unbelief. As strange as this might sound, **unbelief is covered** under the cross while **doubt is not**. Unbelief can be broken down into at least three categories as follows:

**Unbelief:** I believe God's will is my healing but experiences, symptoms, and what others (doctors) tell me make me believe I'm not healed, or going to be. When I believe these things or people, over what the Bible says, **I'm committing spiritual adultery**. I believe someone else over God.

**Unbelief:** I believe God's will is my healing, but I'm not sure He'll heal me, or actually do it. When I believe that it is God's will for my healing, but He won't do it for me, **I'm calling God a liar**. I don't believe His Will.

**Unbelief:** I believe God's will is my healing, but I'm pretty sick, or my condition is beyond medical help. God's power to heal is really being taxed, overdrawn, or having to put out; this indicates that God's power may not be enough, or able to actually perform the healing. When I believe this kind of thing, **I'm committing blasphemy**. I don't believe God's power is enough. We might not openly say this, but in an unconscious way it is what we believe.

**Unbelief** then is spiritual adultery, calling God a liar, and blasphemy! These are pretty ugly things, and to think that God would answer my prayers with any of this is amazing. Doubt doesn't seem to be so bad in comparison; **however, the problem with doubt is that it reflects our heart's condition concerning God's will**. God cannot override our will; yet, He can overcome our sin, because of the blood of Jesus.

3) **The Natural (carnal) mindset hinders our faith in God's grace**. When it comes down to it; unbelief has been planted into our life by the world and sin nature. We have an **unbelief problem** because we've been **valuing** what the world teaches, over what God's word teaches.

Paul the apostle wrote:

I Cor. 2: 14 But **the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

If God's healing sounds foolish to us, then we can know that we are **naturally minded**. This is another major reason why we don't receive healing in our life. We can't know, understand or receive spiritual things from a mind set on natural things.

Ro 8:6 For to be carnally minded is death, **but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.**

### **Divine Healing Is Hindered By The Carnal Mind Set**

What this means is that our dependence upon *natural knowledge* and information, blinds us from seeing *spiritual knowledge* and *revelation*. The unseen eternal truth of God's word is more powerful and real than the fallen "facts" of this realm. If God's healing promises seem foreign, outlandish, foolish, distant, and unreal, it is because we are **dominated by naturalism**. When humanity fell into sin, we fell from grace. We fell from spiritual awareness and life—we fell into naturalism. The natural mind cannot receive spiritual truth.

### **9) The New Kingdom Is Based On Revelation Knowledge!**

**When we become born again, we are born into a new kingdom.** We are awakened to the things of God and His righteousness in us. When we pursue, keep in front of us, the things of God's promises, we are **becoming in tune** with them (Pr. 22:17). We become more sensitive to the things of the Spirit as we become more familiar with them. The more aware we are of God's word, the more the Spirit can awaken us **to spiritual life in us—this is revelation knowledge.**

We are supposed to live to newness of life (Rom. 6:4)! This newness of life is not some enhanced version of naturalism; **it is supernatural life in Jesus.** Jesus said that His kingdom is based upon **revelation knowledge** (Matt. 16:17). This is where the word of God becomes what we live to (and depends upon); rather than what we see, hear, feel, or sense from this fallen world. This transition within our heart means we are becoming **spiritually minded!** We are crossing over from being babes in Christ (carnally minded), to being sons and daughters of God.

### **10) Why Don't We See It? What We Don't Know Can Hurt Us!**

There is a saying quite the opposite of this that goes, **"What you don't know can't hurt you."** Nothing could be further from the truth. If we don't know God's word, its blessings and benefits, will not manifest in our lives. If we don't know that Jesus is our savior and call out to be saved, we'll miss salvation period. God doesn't want us ignorant of His word because it is His Word that saves us, and heals us.

Ho 4:6 My people are destroyed **for lack of knowledge.**

Ps 107:20 **He sent His word and healed them,** And delivered them from their destructions.

### **Renters Insurance**

When I was a young man I sold Renters insurance for a year. I learned that if I don't know what my insurance covers **I can miss the benefits of it.** Renters insurance has a "Good Neighbor" clause that is **not** readily known by most people. It was because I sold it that I was familiar with

all of the coverage. We had borrowed an *infant swing* to help us babysit a friend's baby. It was the kind that stood by itself, and had a motor that when wound up would keep the swing moving for the baby to sleep or enjoy. Meanwhile, we watched another friend's daughter who was two years old, who wanted to get into that swing. She did it while we were not watching and when she got in, it collapsed under her weight. The swing was ruined. I knew we were responsible for the swing and would have to pay to replace it. The "Good Neighbor" clause of our Renters policy covers such things as this. It is there to help when accidents occur and property is damaged. I called our company's claim service and explained the situation, and soon a check for the damaged swing was sent. We quickly gave the money to our friends to replace their swing—thus being a good neighbor.

### **The Point Is This, If We Do Not Know About God's Healing Provisions, We Will Not Make Our Claim.**

If we don't know that Jesus' atonement included healing, we will not apply it to our lives. Just like with insurance, where we must apply for claims to be processed, we must also apply or assert the word of God into our lives. It will not happen automatically in either case. **We can miss God's grace!**

#### **11) How We Apply Healing Is Vitaly Important**

Jesus said,

Mark 11: 23 "For assuredly, I say to you, **whoever says to this mountain**, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' **and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.**

24 "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, **believe that you receive them, and you will have them.**

**Jesus taught us to speak to the mountain in our life.** He doesn't do it for us; we must do it because we have a will, and we were given dominion upon this earth (Gen. 1:26). He commands us to use His word, His Spirit, and His grace on our behalf. We speak to the mountain activating our faith in His grace.

### **We Speak To Move The Fallen Facts Of This Realm, To Align With The Eternal Truth Of Our New Kingdom.**

We do this because we believe He has done it. He healed us in the cross; therefore, we stand in His grace to speak to sickness and disease to leave. We believe and do not doubt! Remember the difference between unbelief and doubt. Doubt means I'm not sure what God's will is. If I am sure, then I'm not in doubt. I can speak to the mountain and fulfill Jesus' requirement of "**does not doubt in his heart.**" I may still have **unbelief**, such as being uncertain of the performance of the promise. I can still have **unbelief** because of what others may say, such as a doctor saying

the disease is incurable. This unbelief is challenging the performance of God's will. It is not challenging our belief that healing is God's will.

The natural man is the source of all unbelief! Our born again spirit does not have unbelief. Our new creation is made just like Jesus and is joined as one with Him (I Cor. 6:17). Our spirit believes and we have been given the faith of Christ, who lives in us!

Gal. 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ and **I no longer live, but Christ lives in me**. The life I live in the body, **I live by faith of the Son of God**, who loved me and gave himself for me.

**What is actually taking place, once I'm convinced God's will is my healing, is a tug of war.** On the one side is my spirit speaking the faith of Christ into my life. On the other side is my natural man doubting, fearing, questioning, and living in unbelief. Like two horses pulling in opposite directions in a tug of war, eventually one horse will win. It is the horse I focus on, stay in faith with, and abide in that will win. If I keep the promises of God always before me, the Spirit horse wins. If I keep thinking on the fear, doubt, and unbelief in naturalism, then that horse will win.

This may help explain why the Bible speaks about recovery as opposed to immediate results.

## **12) Looking For Immediate Results?**

One of the major hindrances for believing comes from expecting **immediate results**. Healing does manifest with **immediate results** often; however, when Jesus commissions the disciples, the word that is used is "**recover**."

Mark 16: 17 "And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

18 "they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover**."

The apostle James wrote:

Jas 5:15 And the prayer of faith **will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up**. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.

These and other verses speak to the restoration of health from being sick—as in time. The problem arises when we read about Jesus' **healing the multitudes, and in just about every case it was immediate**. There is a case where Jesus had to pray for a blind man twice. In another case, He made spittle and placed it on the blind man's eyes; then He told him to go and wash. When were the ten lepers healed? Were they healed immediately, or on their way to show themselves to the priests? We therefore, have this same expectation that healing should be immediate. When we pray and nothing appears to have happened (immediately), we lose heart and give up on it. We come away believing that it didn't work. This makes us miss grace.

Healing grace for most of us will be based on recovery. This means we may not see immediate results, but it will manifest over time.

It is like when Jesus cursed the fig tree. The tree didn't wither immediately. It was the next day that the disciples saw the result. Jesus said:

Mt 21:21 So Jesus answered and said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, **if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but also if you say to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' it will be done.**

And,

Mark 11: 23 "For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, **but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.**

24 "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, **believe that you receive them, and you will have them.**

These verses confirm that when we speak to the mountain and believe, holding onto it, that what we said **"will be done, he will have whatever he says."** This strongly implies results in time. Then it teaches us **that when we pray,** believe we receive it. Then in time, it will happen. **It is important to provide this time frame so that we do not miss grace.**

**Let's Consider That Jesus' Ministry Was Superior Because He Had No Sin Nature, No Doubts, And No Unbelief, To Hinder His Faith.**

His faith was mature, confident, and fully persuaded. In contrast, we have the same Spirit, the same faith, and the same commission; **however, we have the hindrances of sin nature, doubts, and unbelief to overcome.** Our faith has not been mature in practice, and our confidence comes and goes (mainly because we are often not persuaded). Jesus is the believing One! **We struggle for right believing.** We struggle to remain grace minded. I believe one of the reasons that the scriptures expressed our success with healing in terms of "recover," it is because God knows that we'd struggle for faith.

When we expect **immediate results** like Jesus had, that places a heavy burden upon us all. We do have **miraculous healings**, but by far most receive healing by restoring to health over time. The time might be minutes, hours, days, or even weeks, but they do recover. **We need to understand that immediate results are miracles, while results that take time come under the classification of healings.** If someone experiences a miracle of healing that is awesome; if someone experiences healing as in recovering, ultimately the results for both are the same. Therefore, we are fulfilling what Jesus said:

John 14: 12 "**Most assuredly**, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father.  
13 "**And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do**, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

**Our Expectation Should Be Firmly Grounded In The Belief That When We Pray And Call For Healing, From That Moment On The Sick Are Getting Better.**

(For more on this read the booklet "Looking for Immediate Results?")

### **13) Some Lose Their Healing**

This may sound hard to believe, but some actually lose their healing. We would think that if God healed us that the power of God could not be lost. If we think that we'd be wrong. What is going on that such a thing could happen? Our healing can be lost at first by not accepting it. Just like someone's salvation that the power of Christ provides can be lost by not accepting it. Jesus has saved the world; however, not all will accept and believe therefore, losing their salvation. Healing can be lost by someone having received it and experiencing the manifestation of it immediately, but then they lose confidence and let it go. Jesus said it in the parable of the sower and the seed listen:

Mark 4: 16 And these are they likewise which are sown on stony ground; who, when they have heard the word, **immediately receive it with gladness;**  
17 **And have no root in themselves, and so endure but for a time:** afterward, when affliction or persecution arises for the word's sake, **immediately they are offended.**  
18 And these are they which are sown among thorns; such as hear the word,  
19 And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, **choke the word, and it becomes unfruitful.**

This passage may shed some light on what happens to individuals, who after being prayed for, receive their healing. The pain they had is gone. The symptoms of their condition ceased. They couldn't walk, but now they are. They couldn't bend over without great pain, and now they can. However, after leaving the meeting, service, or prayer group, they do not understand that they might find the symptoms returning. When they return they often just accept them again and when they do, they lose their healing. **They reason that if they were truly healed the symptoms would not return.** It is important that when symptoms do return, that we know what to do with them. **We are to stand in the grace of our healing and rebuke, resist, and command in Jesus' name, for those symptoms to go away!**

We don't see this "battle" described in scripture. We don't see any of the multitudes that Jesus healed wrestling with returning symptoms. **This struggle for faith in our healing is something that the church has to deal with.** It is something that experience in healing has brought forth.

Nevertheless, this phenomenon is real and many out of ignorance or lack of depth in their faith, have given into and lost their healing.

### **It Is Documented And Testimonies Abound Concerning This Battle: Those Who Have Lost Their Healing And Those Who When Symptoms Returned, Stood Their Ground In Jesus And Remained Healed.**

Some have described this issue like this: when someone gets healed at a meeting, service, or prayer group, **often it is the faith of those praying for them that produces results from God's grace.** When the individual is on their own, the curse of the law will re-introduce itself as the symptoms returning. If that person accepts the symptoms, they will lose their healing. If that same person rises up in faith, knowing that Jesus bought their healing for them (and it has manifested in their body), and rebukes the curse and the symptoms, they remain healed.

It is like salvation itself. If someone is moved to receive Christ in a group setting, but most of it is based on what others are doing, **there will come the point when that person must stand on their own believing.** Sometimes the emotions and the group setting have carried someone to make a commitment to Christ. When they are on their own, they might have second thoughts or doubt their experience. There are some who have moved away from their salvation because as their life continued, they didn't experience any radical change. They are still sinning, still desiring the same things, and the peace they experienced at the meeting seems quite faint now.

**At the core of this issue is our heart.** God will not override our hearts. All of the promises of God's grace are subject to our believing. God is Almighty; however, He has chosen to subject His power to our faith. For by grace through faith, we are saved! Grace is God's part; faith is our response to believe Him (Eph. 2:8)!

Pr 4:23 **Keep your heart with all diligence, For out of it spring the issues of life.**

Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according to the power that works in us,**

Ro 8:1 There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, **who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.**

Ro 8:4 that the righteous requirement of the law **might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.**

Ro 8:5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, **but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.**

## 14) I Wish I'd Known Then What I Know Now!

We can miss grace! Mainly we miss grace because we do not believe the right things. We can miss grace because we are ignorant of the truth. Jesus said:

John 8:32 "And you shall know the truth, **and the truth shall make you free.**"

**We Must Assert Grace into Our Lives, it won't happen automatically.** The reason it won't is because we are in charge of our own hearts. There are many benefits in life we can miss out on by not knowing about them. Recently, I mowed my son-in-laws lawn for him while he was on a week's training with his job. He bought a new mower and when I went to use it, I felt he might have made a mistake. It was hard to push, and required having to stop often to empty out the bag that was collecting the grass clippings. I was used to a light weight, easy to push, mulching mower that didn't require stopping to empty out a bag.

When I talked with him about his mower he asked, "How did you like the self propelling feature of the mower?" I said, "What?" He said, "Dad, didn't you use the extra lever at the top of the handle to engage it?" I said, "Well, uh, no. I saw the lever, but I didn't know what it was for..." Needless to say, I felt pretty embarrassed by the whole thing; however, it does illustrate very well the point of missing out on something because we don't know about it. "I wish I'd known then (when I was mowing his lawn) what I know now."

**The church over the centuries has missed God's grace when it comes to healing.** We haven't understood how grace and faith worked. We have allowed experiences to overrule what the Word of God actually says. When we do these things, we can miss out on what Jesus provided. This is no laughing matter as it was with my mowing with my son-in-law's mower. Healing is a life and death matter and many sorrows, pains, and grief have been experienced, because we did not access His healing grace. We have often asked the wrong questions such as, "Why didn't God heal?" This question as a foundation denies that "**by His stripes we were healed.**" The right questions affirm the truth, while investigating what is missing or wrong. The right question is, "Why didn't I receive my healing?"

### Conclusion:

**Why is there healing?** There is healing for whosoever believes in Him. Jesus' atonement provided it for all of us, and it came at great expense. The amazing truth is that it is free to all of us when we **come under grace**. We can't earn it; it's not based upon our spirituality, our devotion, or service. **It's based on what we believe according to what God has decided and provided in Jesus.**

We can miss grace. We can miss healing; however, it is God's desire that we receive the full benefits for the forgiveness of our sins. This means that in Jesus we have been made righteous and holy. He has been made unto us wisdom, sanctification, and redemption. We have the

riches of Christ dwelling in us. We have the authority of His name. We have His peace, His faith, His strength, His life, and His full intercession on our behalf (Heb. 7:25).

**It Means We Have Been Healed And We Need To Turn Our Attention To The Things In This World (And In Us), *That Are Hindering Us From Believing It.***

Part II

## **Healing Is A Major Aspect Of The Gospel Of Jesus Christ!**

### **The Healing Ministry Of Jesus Is Our Healing Ministry Too!**

#### **1. Jesus' Healing Ministry**

Healing is a major aspect of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. **It has been said that Jesus spent as much as eighty percent of His ministry healing and delivering the people.** It is one of THE ways God intended to draw all men unto Jesus. Healing acted like a beacon to the truth. Jesus spoke to the Pharisees trying to reason with them that the signs, wonders, and miracles (works) were proof that God was in Him:

John 10:37 **"If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me;**  
38 **"but if I do, though you do not believe Me, *believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in Me, and I in Him.*"**

Furthermore, healing provided in real practical ways how God's *compassion* was demonstrated towards them. Jesus healed all manner of illness and calamity that humanity was experiencing. ***It showed that Jesus is Lord*** over the very things people feared the most. It reached people in what mattered to them personally, and ***got their attention*** so that they would hear the Word of God. Healing was meant to ***lead to the presentation of the kingdom of God.*** Although the word of God is all powerful in itself, people needed to have it manifested before them, and in them. This is what helped them to believe:

John 4:48 Then Jesus said to him, ***"Unless you people see signs and wonders, you will by no means believe."***

If someone is consumed with sickness and disease, it will make it far more difficult for them to hear the good news—that God has sent His son into the world to save sinners. The apostle Paul put it like this:

I Cor. 2:14 **"But the natural man *does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them,* because they are spiritually discerned.**

The natural man does not respond to the Word of God, but through seeing or experiencing healing, this awakens them to look into spiritual truth ***and the mission of Jesus.***

## **Jesus Didn't Heal *Just* To Get People's Attention So That They'd Listen To Him; He Also Healed To *Show God's Will Concerning The Curse Of The Law.***

Sickness and disease came into the world because of the fall. We find out that it is the curse of the law that actually is the power behind all of it (Duet 28). Sickness and disease are the result of sin and its consequences, and not the will of God.

Therefore, Jesus healing the people opened them up to spiritual truth (the Word), and showed God's compassion for each one. It showed God's will for healing for everyone over the curse that came because of disobedience and sin.

Mt 14:14 And when Jesus went out He saw a great multitude; **and He was moved with compassion** for them, and healed their sick.

The gospel of Jesus is not in word only, **but in power** (I Cor. 4:20). Jesus demonstrated the power of God by healing multitudes. **Think about this for a moment:** if Jesus performed healing and miracles just to prove He was the messiah and sent by God, then having a few notable miracles would have sufficed; however, He used healing to reveal God's compassion and to meet people's needs.

Mt 8:16 When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon–possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, **and healed all who were sick,**

Mt 4:23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people.**

Mt. 9:35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, **and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.**

Ac 10:38 "how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and **healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.**

These scriptures and more show God's will towards sickness and disease. Jesus is the Will of God manifest upon the earth. As our Messiah, He was coming to redeem us from the fall, our sins, and the curse of the law (Gal. 3:13)—sickness and disease is included among them.

## **2. The Fundamental Gospel**

When Jesus Christ reconciled the world to God in His atonement, it has **many components** as these verses reveal:

Isa. 53:4 Surely He has borne our **grief And carried our sorrows;** Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted.

5 But He was **wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.**

The atonement happened two thousand years ago, and finished the work of reconciliation between God and man. Jesus' finished work included **forgiveness of sins AND healing**. It also included our sorrows, our peace, and our grief among other things. If we accept forgiveness of sins, we are also to accept the "other things" too. The atonement included all that was necessary to bring life to us in Jesus. For example, **Jesus Himself equated forgiveness of sins with healing**. He treated them as one and the same, shouldn't we?

Mark 2:9 "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, '**Your sins are forgiven you,**' or to say, '**Arise, take up your bed and walk?**'<sup>10</sup> **"But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"** --He said to the paralytic, <sup>11</sup> **"I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."**<sup>12</sup> **Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"**

It would it be easier to claim forgiveness of sins. After all, there is no physical evidence needed to make this claim, while if you include healing, there is. Jesus wanted us to know that forgiveness meant healing **inside and out**. The opposite is also true, that if we are healed, we are also forgiven.

The church has missed this or somewhere down through our history, we let it go. The gospel has often been presented in contemporary times, as a singular emphasis for the forgiveness of sins as in being born again. The demonstration of power that Jesus exercised has often been attributed to the fact that He was the Messiah, and in particular God incarnate.

**As I Wrote Before, That If This Were The Only Reason That Jesus Healed (To Show That He Was The Son Of God), Then He Wouldn't Have Spent So Much Time Doing It.**

### **3. Jesus' Mission Was To Show God's Will For Us**

It is written of Jesus in His ministry in the gospels and epistles, some seventeen times that **ALL** who came to him for healing were healed. We do not find one instance where Jesus refused to heal, deliver, save, or set free. The resounding witness **IS** as Jesus said to the man with leprosy, "*I am willing,*" and cleansed him of that horrible disease (Matt. 8:3; Mark 1:41; Luke 5:13).

The overwhelming testimony surrounding Jesus' ministry was His casting out demons, and His healing all who were oppressed of the devil. This included curing deformity, opening blind eyes, making the deaf to hear, raising the lame and the dead, and setting everyone who came to him free. He must have spent hours and hours each day accomplishing this task with so many ill, deformed, or demon possessed. Jesus said it plainly:

Lu 4:18 **"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;**

If God was in Christ to the fullest possible way, if Jesus is the embodiment of God in the flesh; **then we have a complete example of God's will demonstrated concerning sickness and disease for us.** Paul the apostle wrote this about Jesus:

Col 1:15 He is **the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn over all creation.

Col 1:19 For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the **fullness should dwell**,

Col 2:9 For in Him dwells all the **fullness of the Godhead bodily**;

### **Jesus Was And Is The Expressed Will Of God Manifested In The Flesh. Jesus Healed All That Came To Him...That Is God's Will.**

What if sickness and disease is God's will for people in order to bring some kind of glory to Him? Then wouldn't Jesus' ministry have been in conflict with God's will? Jesus healed multitudes, surely at least a few of them would have been in God's will to be sick or ill? If sickness and disease are meant to teach us and make us better people, or develop character in us, surely Jesus would have said *that* to at least one or two of them.

The truth is we couldn't have a more clear understanding of God's will towards sin and its consequences in the curse, **than the life and ministry of Jesus.** The gospel of John teaches us that Jesus is the Word of God incarnate. **That means that God's Word, which is His will, was made manifest for the whole world to see.**

John 1:1 **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

2 He was in the beginning with God.

3 All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made.

14 **And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

What did Jesus come to do? **He came to destroy the works of the devil.** The devil's work was getting man to sin against God. The result of sin is the curse and the curse is manifested in every kind of sickness and disease, violence, ill-will, depravation, war, poverty, death, etc...all of which are listed in Deuteronomy Chapter 28.

1John 3:8b "For this purpose **the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.**

Paul under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, proclaims that Jesus has delivered us from the curse of the law:

Ga 3:13 Christ has **redeemed us from the curse of the law**, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed *is* everyone who hangs on a tree"),

The scriptures teach us that through the atonement, He was bruised for iniquities, suffered for our transgressions, bore our pains, sicknesses, and grief, and by ***His stripes we were healed***. Thus, He has redeemed us from our sins and the curse. Salvation is not just the spiritual new birth, but for the whole being—body, soul, and spirit.

#### 4. Healing Is It Only Spiritual?

Some have argued that what Jesus provided for was not physical healing for the body, but just spiritual. Jesus as the Messiah had a "*special anointing*" to heal physically, but the church has no such calling. They might go on to say that this anointing passed onto the apostles, but is no longer operating. This argument doesn't come from the New Testament scriptures, but is an explanation given to excuse powerlessness in healing today.

Is the atonement of Jesus in the cross only spiritual? **Matthew** takes Isaiah 53:4, 5 and under the direction of the Holy Spirit, **ends any doubt about it being for physical healing**. Jesus had healed multitudes and cast out demons with a word, then he quotes Isaiah 53:4, 5 **saying it is the fulfillment of this prophesy**:

Matt. 8:16 "When evening had come they brought to Him many who were demon–possessed. **And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,<sup>17</sup> that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities and bore *our* sicknesses."**

The atonement means forgiveness of sins and that means healing inside and outside. It is as if the Holy Spirit knew we'd be trying to make the finished work of Christ to mean only spiritual benefits. This passage clearly connects it to physical healing too.

What about the fact that this is Jesus? Maybe the atonement only meant for Jesus to heal physically? Some have reported that the miraculous power of God was only to prove Jesus as the Messiah, and then to help the apostles spread the gospel at first. In response, let me begin to address **the true commission of Jesus**.

#### 5. The Commission And Re-Commission Of Jesus' Disciples

Jesus came to show us who we were meant to be in this earth. He is our example, and as our example He became one of us so that we could become as He is (I John 4:17). Jesus makes a remarkable statement:

John 14:12 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do**, because I go to My Father.

One could argue that God wanted the world to know that Jesus is the Messiah; therefore, God commissioned Him to heal, to deliver, and to set free to show Jesus is Lord. Certainly, that is true; **yet, Jesus' mission and then re-commission of His disciples was to do the very works He did!** Jesus plainly said that, "unless you people see signs and wonders you will by no means believe."

## **If That Was The Case For The Messiah In Ministering, Reaching, Convincing, And Showing God's Grace, How Much More It Is For His Disciples?**

Consider this truth: Jesus wasn't the only one healing! Listen to Jesus' commissioning of the twelve apostles, and then the seventy He sent out two by two: **They were to heal the sick and then preach the kingdom of God is near!**

Mt. 10:8 **"Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.**

Luke 9:2 He sent them to preach the kingdom of God and to **heal the sick.**

Luke 10:9 **"And heal the sick there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'**

**The Great Commission** has often in our day, been presented to mean primarily salvation in the new birth; what has not been presented is **how much that commission** included healing, deliverance, and setting the captives free!

In other words, the Great Commission is **TWO-FOLDED** having the first part meant to help accomplish the second part. Listen to Matt. 28:18-21 of the **Great Commission**, taking note of verse 20!

Matt. 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 **"teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you;** and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen.

Jesus is **telling the apostles** to teach their disciples to keep, observe, do and practice **ALL things** He commend them! That command included healing the sick, casting out demons, raising the dead, and taking authority over all the power of the enemy to deliver all who are oppressed of the devil.

Lu 10:19 **"Behold, I give you the authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy,** and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

**Further, Jesus said that we should pray for laborers** to be sent to do the very works He was doing. They were meant to show God's power to forgive and deliver, and then preach the kingdom of God! **The**

same is just as true today as it was then and **even more, so since Jesus has been glorified** and the Holy Spirit sent into the hearts of believers!

Mt 9:37 Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly *is* plentiful, but the **laborers are few**<sup>38</sup>  
**"Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest."**

What many have ignored, or failed to see, is that Jesus came to ***re-produce Himself in us!*** When we read in Philippians 2:5-8, we see what Jesus did:

5 **have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,**  
6 who, though he was in the form of god, did not count equality with god a thing to be grasped,  
7 **but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.**  
8 and being **found in human form he humbled himself** and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross.

This passage explains the incarnation to us. Jesus as God, didn't come to be God among us, but be like a human being (righteous human being). In the form of a human being and anointed by the Holy Spirit, the works of the Father were accomplished through Him. In essence, He showed us what God had intended for humanity from the start (Gen. 1:26) had there been no fall. We would have had dominion upon the earth through the anointing of the Holy Spirit just as Jesus showed us.

John 14:10 "**Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me?** The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; **but the Father who dwells in Me does the works.**

## 6. Jesus Came To Re-Produce Himself In Us

When we became born again, we received the Holy Spirit too. We have the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead dwelling in us to do the same things for the same reasons!

Ro 8:11 **But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.**

God's will is to manifest His glory through ***His sons and daughters*** in the name of Jesus! The name of Jesus is Lord, deliverer, redeemer, savior, healer, protector, provider, and all wisdom and power! **We are to go in His name to do what Jesus did!** Jesus said this:

John 12:24 "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain.**

Jesus was speaking about His glorification on the cross, and resurrection in new life. When we become born again, it is because of His resurrection. **We are sharing in His life as He shared in our death on the cross.** This substitution saves us, and just as important, creates in us a new man (II Cor. 5:17).

## **This New Creation Is Just Like Jesus, Which Fulfills His Statement That “If It Dies (Grain Of Wheat—Jesus), It Produces Much Grain (The Body Of Christ—Believers).”**

As Jesus re-produced Himself in us, these scriptures also speak to His commissioning of all His disciples. **We are commissioned** to be His ambassadors and ministers of reconciliation!

2Co 5:20 Now **then, we are ambassadors for Christ**, as though God were pleading **through us**: we implore *you* on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God.

2Co 5:18 Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, **and has given us the ministry of reconciliation**,

Joh 14:13 “And whatever you ask **in My name**, that I will do, **that the Father may be glorified in the Son**.

Joh 15:8 “**By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit**; so you will be My disciples.

Here’s another remarkable statement:

Joh 17:22 "**And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one**:

Jesus said He was the light of the world while He remained in it (John 9:5); but when He died and rose again, the Father sent the Holy Spirit into **all who believe**. Therefore, we are the light of the World in Christ Jesus. We are to shine forth the same works that the Lord did so that all will know, see, and understand God’s compassion for the lost.

Mt 5:16 "**Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works (the same works of Jesus) and glorify your Father in heaven**.

Signs were meant to act as a **beacon to the gospel** of Christ Jesus to draw all men unto the truth. Signs of God’s compassion, and confirmation of His Word, are what turned the world upside down when the church first began to preach and heal!

Mr 16:20 And they went out and preached everywhere, **the Lord working with *them* and confirming the word through the accompanying signs**. Amen.

Mr. 16:17 “**And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name** they will cast out demons; they will **speak with new tongues**;

18 “they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; **they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover**.”

The church is to re-present Christ to the world as risen, and as THE victorious king went about destroying the works of the devil, so should we. **The Great Commission** had always included both healing, AND salvation in the new birth! **We have been commissioned to go in His Name!** This means

we go as if we were Jesus acting in His stead, on His behalf, as His representative doing what He would do!

## **Actually Jesus Does It Through Us! It Is His Very Life, Faith, Peace, Strength, Power, And Grace Working Through Us By Faith!**

Ga 2:20 "I have been crucified with Christ; **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me**; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in (of) the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

John 15:16 "You did not choose Me, but I chose you **and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit (same works), and *that your fruit should remain*, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.**

### **7. Just As Jesus Is, So Also Are We...**

The following list is enlightening because if we understand what "just as" means, we'll realize what God has done in the new birth! **We need to see it the way God sees it and have the same attitude, belief, and certainty God wants us to have.** "Just as" means just like, in the same way, equal too, a substitute, a replica, or a duplicate; in the identical way.

1Jo 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**

- 1) **Just as Jesus was sent**, so we are sent... (John 17:18)
- 2) **Just as the Father and the Son are**, so we are one with God... (John 17:21)
- 3) **Just as the Father was in the Son**, so the Father is in us... (John 17:22)
- 4) **Just as the Father has sent Jesus**, so also Jesus sends us... (John 20:21)
- 5) **Just as the Jesus was led by the Spirit**, so also are we... (Romans 8:14)
- 6) **Just as Paul imitated Christ in every way**, so also are we to imitate Christ... (I Cor. 11:1)
- 7) **Just as we received Christ in salvation**, so also are we to walk... (Col. 2:6)
- 8) **Just as Christ forgave**, so also are we to forgive... (Col. 3:13)
- 9) **Just as Christ spoke the oracles of God**, so also are we... (I Pet. 4:11)
- 10) **Just as Christ walked & abided in the Father**, so also are we to walk & abide... (I John 2:6)
- 11) **Just as Jesus is righteous**, so also are we made righteous... (I John 3:7)
- 12) **Just as Jesus walked in health & prosperity**, so also are we to walk in health & prosperity... (3 John 1:2)

We are to know the Word and be fully persuaded, so that no doubts remain; this is our responsibility and response to what Jesus has done in God's grace for us. We are to be **fully established in grace**:

Col 2:7 "rooted and built up in Him and **established in the faith**, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving."

## 8. A Major Change Is In Order

We have been commissioned to go in His name, in His place, and to do what He did. **His ministry majored in healing and deliverance**; however, most modern day Christians and ministries do not. We have lost this vital aspect of ministry and witness to the Word of Truth! As we regain it, we need to **make a change** in our understanding and the way we operate.

**With Anything That Becomes A Major Emphasis In Our Lives, There Needs To Be A Fundamental Change In The Way We Do Business.**

**Mt 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.**

If we understand that our hearts must be involved in the gospel of Jesus Christ for it to manifest in our lives, **then our heart's attention** must be changed toward this major aspect of THE gospel.

**Pr 4:23 Keep your heart with all diligence, for out of it spring the issues of life.**

**For quality to be experienced in anything it must be birthed through quantity.** We cannot expect to receive and manifest God's best, if we are not living to the quantity of God's life in us. We can't major in the world and its desires, pleasures, and entertainment, then turn our attention to godly things and expect miracles to happen (although God has often been gracious to us despite our lack of focus).

**1Jo 2:15 Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**

**One of the motivations for making godliness a major quantity in our life is the realization we are in a spiritual war for the souls of men.** This war is all around us and it is stealing, killing, and destroying people's lives every day (John 10:10). We have to make up our minds to see that we cannot fight this war as a **policing action**. We cannot fight this war **as a hobby**. We cannot fight this war **as civilians**. **Our call to arms, means dedication to training and living a life set aside** by God to work the works of Christ:

Eph 6:12 **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood**, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

2Co 10:4 **For the weapons of our warfare** are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,

**Are we convinced that God has commissioned us?** Are we convinced that we have been given His name, His grace, His Spirit, and His Word, to do the very same things that Jesus did? Are we convinced that we are in a spiritual war for the souls of men? God's grace has given to us all that we need.

### **This Is A Faith Battle That Stands Upon His Already Decided Will On The Matter.**

2Pe 1:3 **as His divine power has given to us all things that *pertain to life and godliness***, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue,

We must be convinced that our attention must be focused in a major way on healing and deliverance, **because sickness and disease is a major part of life**. Sin and its consequences are the source for this curse, but through Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, through the authority of the name of Jesus, **we've been commissioned to bring peace to the spirit, soul and body of man**. We are not being faithful to ourselves, to God, and to the atonement of Christ, **when we spend very little time preparing, addressing, and training to be ministers of reconciliation in all that means!**

Mt 10:39 **"He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.**

## **9. Quality Versus Quantity**

If we were to treat eating our food with the same emphasis we do the healing ministry of the saints, we'd starve! Some might say well it is **quality versus quantity** that counts. Imagine feeding someone a very tasty meal of quality food that really just entails one bite. This bite may be small in amount, but it is the very best tasting food you have ever tasted. If we had a steady diet of such meals, we would starve to death. **We would be weak at best, and isn't that the way most Christians feel in regards to faith and healing?**

We need to realize that quality is birthed out of quantity; they are both necessary for feeding, building up our **faith confidence**, and practice for succeeding. When it comes to sports and teams working to get better, there isn't a coach that wouldn't want their team practicing every day. No coach is going to say that what really counts is a minute or two of intense focus and quality play.

**Everyone Knows That Outstanding Plays Come From Players With Many Hours, Weeks, And Months Of Practice.**

For anyone to become good, exceptional, even professional, they must give their life, time, and **quantity of effort, to reach the highest quality of performance.**

Php 3:12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; **but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.**

Php 3:14 I **press toward the goal for the prize** of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

## **10 Begin To Make Healing & Deliverance A Major Thrust**

We can't be guessing about God's will or word when it comes to operating in faith and authority in Jesus' name. We need to have in our hearts a steady and quality diet of meditation, prayer, and practice, so that we are not novices in regards to praying for the sick or casting out demons.

**If We Have Questions Or Doubts That Have Never Been Answered, We Are Not In A Position Of Strength, But Weakness.**

James 1:6 But let him ask in faith, **with no doubting**, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.<sup>7</sup> For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;<sup>8</sup> he is a double-minded man, **unstable in all his ways.**

If we need to *do some homework* to find the answers that absolutely satisfy our questions, **then be about it with a whole heart.** Any question not fully addressed will only keep coming back, and will be a source of stumbling in receiving God's best.

**We Are In A Major War, But We Have Been Given Major Grace Through God's Word And Spirit To Address Every Power, Every Curse, And Every Deception Of The Enemy. For Us To Not Major In Salvation, AND Healing, And Deliverance Is To Miss The Mark And Calling Upon Every Believer.**

1Jo 4:17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; **because as He is, so are we in this world.**

1Pe 1:13 Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, **and rest your hope fully upon the grace** that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

Mt 28:18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, **"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**

## In Conclusion: Consider Some Of The Issues We Must Address

When we become aware of the **TWO-FOLD commission of healing** the sick and preaching/witnessing to the gospel, we need to make some changes. Let me present some of those changes:

1) **We must be convinced that healing, delivering, and casting out demons IS God's will for US!**

This means we must address questions that would hinder us from removing ALL doubts concerning God's Will. **Questions such as:** Is it God's Will to Heal today? Is it God's will to heal everyone? What about Job? What about Paul's thorn in the flesh? What do people die from if not sickness & disease? Doesn't God use sickness & disease to teach us? What if I pray for healing and nothing happens? Why doesn't everyone get healed? Wasn't God's power just for the early church? Why don't we see miracles & healings today?

2) **We must understand that our own hearts have weeds of unbelief, doubts, unforgiveness, and rebellion towards God that are hindering us from operating in purer faith!** As we examine through God's Spirit, we can identify those fears, worries, and anxious thoughts that penetrate to our inner most being, revealing to us what is in our hearts. We'll **discover weeds** that actually believe what the world teaches over what God's Word says—this is spiritual adultery! We'll discover that we do not believe what God's words teaches, this is unbelief in our hearts—actually calling God a liar from our hearts! We'll discover that we have weeds of unbelief that reflect a lack of trust in God, His nature, His willingness, and His compassion—this is blasphemy because we are denying God! All of these weeds come from being carnal, living and receiving what the world believes and teaches. These weeds represent what we have focused our lives on and what we truly trust in our hearts. We must identify the weeds and apply God's word to destroy them and replace them with belief that aligns with God's Will.

3) **We don't have a faith problem because we have been given the very life, strength, grace, and Spirit of Christ! We have His faith (Gal. 2:20)!** This means we have to re-direct our heart to **understand by faith what grace has accomplished!** God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, and then bestowing in us through the New Birth, a new creation just like Jesus. We can do nothing through our human flesh, but we are NOT without Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Grace has been poured out so that we are blessed with every spiritual blessing, and given all things that pertain to life and godliness (II Pet. 1:3). **We acquire and operate in this grace through faith!** We must apply our hearts to grasp, believe, meditate, trust, and embrace the truth of what God has already done in Christ in US! This is not a faith problem, it is an acknowledgement problem. We are not recognizing and validating the gospel truth of who Christ is in us (Philemon 1:6)

- 4) **We must begin to ACT upon this truth as one who trusts the very nature, compassion, will, and character of God's Word.** As a result, we will see first in our spirits the manifestation because of believing God's Word alone. Then as we act to take our position in Christ through the boldness of the Holy Spirit, we'll experience the joy of receiving through faith the will of God in our lives. By this is God glorified, when His sons and daughters believe His word in the face of rebellious circumstances and symptoms, to receive! When we take the Name of Jesus and begin to operate in the authority of that name, we'll see the Holy Spirit respond and manifest God's Will.
- 5) **We must make a decision to live to God's awesome grace, poured out in His love, when we became born again.** We cannot expect to live most of our life focused on the world and its desires, cares, deceit, and **then expect to walk in the Spirit's confidence.** **Therefore, we need to mobilize our hearts and life towards the greatest job there is: being a minister of reconciliation, which means a major change in our focus on God's promises, word, and will.** This will mean giving up *some* desires, habits, TV and entertainment; this will not be easy because our flesh has often dictated to us. We may need to fast and pray to overcome our carnal dependence, in order to become more spiritually minded. **We need to stay grace minded always.**

**What is the benefit of such a program or effort?** Would you exchange all of these things to walk in the Spirit and heal the broken hearted? Would you be willing to sanctify your life (set it apart), deny the flesh, and see others delivered from demonic oppression, healed of sickness and disease, and ultimately give their life to Jesus? I think we can clearly see, it is worth our every effort to focus and make God's healing life in us a major emphasis! God's grace is subject to our willingness to accept it, embrace and acknowledge it, and then assert it into our lives.

P.S. When it comes to healing in the name of Jesus, it isn't our growing up as in gaining more of Jesus or the Holy Spirit. **It is growing up in confidence** of who Jesus is in us, and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit's anointing already given.

Some Booklets that further address this:

Vague Christianity  
Indicators & Location (Locating what is in our heart)  
Understanding Unbelief  
Understanding Doubt  
Training (We will experience success and failure but press on!)  
Hardness of Heart  
You Have the Faith of Christ

Think, Act, and Speak Faith

Authority and Faith

Faith Issues

Why Signs (13 Biblical reasons)

Jesus Attitude towards Sickness & Disease

Casting Down all Imaginations & thoughts

A Power We Know Not of... (We are Prophets to Speak His Word)

We Ask But Don't Receive... (How We Respond To Failure Makes The Difference!)